(b) While the Government does not make any reservation referred to in the question, each minority institution established and administered in exercise of the rights under Article 30(1) of the Constitution may adopt a policy of reservation for the minorities establishing the institution of their choice, provided the relevant Act/Statute/MoA of the institution empower so.

Use of Education Cess

†1262. SHRI LAUT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether two percent education cess is applicable on income tax, excise duty, customs duty and service tax since the July, 2004, if so, the amount of money received as a result thereof; and

to what extent the money thus receive has been utilized for basic qualitative education and the States implementing the same, the formal and informal education-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A two percent Education Cess was imposed through the Finance (No. 2) Act, 2004 on income tax, excise duty, customs duty and service tax to finance Government's commitment to quality basic education. According to the Receipts Budget 2005-06, the estimated yield from the Cess is as follows:—

RE 2004-05 Rs. 5010 crores BE

2005-06 Rs. 6975 crores.

Cess proceeds are to be utilised exclusively for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Mid Day Meal (MDM) programs. The allocation for SSA and MDM during 2005-06 is as follows-

SSA (BE) Rs. 7156 crores.

MDM (BE) Rs. 3345 crores.

Internet connection to schools and colleges

1263. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide high-speed internet connection to various schools and colleges; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.